

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 2-9 are pending in this application. Claim 1 was previously canceled, and claims 6-9 have been withdrawn from consideration by the Office, as being drawn to non-elected subject matter. Thus, claims 2-5 are under consideration. Claim 2 has been amended herein to more precisely define that which Applicants' believe to be their invention. Applicants submit that the proposed amendment of claim 2 does not raise new issues or necessitate the undertaking of any additional search of the art by the Examiner, since all of the elements and their relationships claimed were either earlier claimed or inherent in the claims as examined. Therefore, this Amendment should allow for immediate action by the Examiner, and its entry is respectfully requested.

II. Claim Rejection Under 35 USC §102

The Office has maintained the rejection of claims 2-5 under 35 USC § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by *Aoki, et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 4,795,484 (1989)). Applicants continue to respectfully disagree with and traverse this rejection for the reasons of record. Further to Applicants' discussion with the Examiner and In an effort to expedite allowance of the pending claims, Applicants have amended claim 2 to delete the substituent C5-8-cycloalkenyl, asserted to cover R3 being phenyl. Accordingly, this rejection has been rendered moot, and Applicants respectfully request its withdrawal as to claims 2-5.

III. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the foregoing amendment and remarks have placed claims 2-5 in condition for allowance. Applicants further submit that the

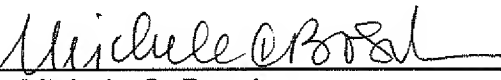
proposed amendment of claim 2 does not raise any new issue or necessitate the undertaking of any additional search of the art by the Examiner, since all of the elements and their relationships claimed were either earlier claimed or inherent in the claims as examined. Therefore, this Amendment should allow for immediate action by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application and the timely allowance of pending claims 2-5.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and if there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Amendment, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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